

USAF Declass/Release Instructions On File

Approved For Release 2002/08/06 : CIA-RDP68B00724R000100080052-6

10 OCT 1966

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USAF

**SUBJECT: Loss of "TROJAN HORSE" SAC U-2 Aircraft
9 October 1966**

1. A SAC U-2 aircraft crashed in South Vietnam Sunday afternoon (1430 local time), 9 October 1966, after completing a high altitude reconnaissance mission over North Vietnam. The pilot successfully ejected after experiencing an uncontrollable flight condition. The pilot was rescued and experienced a slightly bruised left elbow.

2. The U-2 aircraft went down in an inverted position in known VietCong territory approximately 65 miles east northeast of Saigon. (See attached map.) USAF personnel proceeded to the area by helicopter and destroyed all aircraft remains except the engine and two wing stubs.

3. An accident investigation is under way to identify the specific cause, if possible. Limited information available at this time indicates that an autopilot malfunction may have caused a nose low, excessive bank angle flight condition which the pilot could not overcome.

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